

The Palladium.

HENRY STITH, Editor.
HOLLY SPRINGS, MISS.
FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1891.

CONVENTION AT JACKSON.

We learn that information has reached here by telegraphic despatch, that a Convention which assembled at Jackson in this State on Monday last, has nominated the Hon. Henry S. Foote for the office of Governor. This act presents to the people of Mississippi a distinct issue—one which we predict will be decided by an overwhelming majority against those who tender it. This is not a Union question, as is pretended by those who claim to be the exclusive Union-loving men of the country. We have no doubt that nearly all the people of this State are opposed to secession or dissolution of the Union, either as an act of resentment, or means of obtaining redress for injuries that have already occurred. Rather than resort to extreme measures they consent to abide what has been done. There is not therefore any Disunion Party in this State. What then is the true issue presented by the Foote party? It is this—Shall the people of Mississippi not only acquiesce in, and potentially endorse the whole action of the last Congress touching southern rights, but also RATIFY AND APPROVE that action, by electing their Senator who favored it, to the office of Governor? If they decide this in the affirmative they will thereby proclaim to the world—that it was right to prohibit them from going to California with their property—that it was right to hold up and proclaim an old Mexican law as a barrier between them and the vast Territories of New Mexico and Utah—that it was right to give ten millions of dollars for a portion of Texas, for the purpose of including it in the boundaries of New Mexico—that it was right to declare the slave free, who is carried into the District of Columbia and offered for sale—that it was right and proper for the South to make all these concessions and sacrifices, in order to procure the enactment of a law in aid of their clear constitutional right to reclaim their fugitive slaves.

We are opposed to secession or dissolution, and trust in God that the dire necessity for resorting to either may never be forced upon us; but at the same time, we are decidedly in favor of maintaining southern rights; and can never consent to invite future aggression by ratifying and approving the past.

Gen. Shields and the North-West.
We learn through the papers that Gen. Shields, in reply to an invitation recently tendered him while on his route home, by the citizens of Cincinnati, thus expressed his views in regard to the North-West:

"No human mind can venture to forecast the future destiny of the great North-West; but we who are citizens of this favored region, should never forget that the accomplishment of this high destiny, owing to our peculiar position in the interior of the continent, depends in a great measure on the condition of those States which lie between us and the ocean, and thus interpose, as it were, between us and the transatlantic world. The North-West is bound, therefore, by every consideration of interest and duty, to be true and loyal to the Union. The policy of its position is to act as a moderator between the North and South—to be just to both, but partial to neither—and to stand firmly and honestly by the Constitution of the country."

These sentiments respecting the duty of the North-West seem to be excellent; but we believe the General has frequently expressed a firm and decided opposition to the extension of the rights of Southern people into the newly acquired territories. If he considered it an act of loyalty to the Union to exclude them, then, we think his interpretation of his own recommendation to the North-West, "to stand firmly and honestly by the Constitution of the country" would be productive of very little good. We hope, however, that he may exert himself to induce the people of that region, "to be just to both" North and South. The latter asks for nothing more than justice, and will not be satisfied with anything less. Should he labor as zealously in his civil stations to extend the rights of the Constitution equally over all sections of the Union, as he fought bravely to spread the Stars and Stripes to the breeze on the fields of Mexico, his name will be written on another bright page of his country's history.

CUBA, AGAIN.

We publish in another column a proclamation by the President, warning the people of the United States not to engage or participate in any hostile expedition against the Island of Cuba. It is to be regretted, if there is any just cause for so much alarm and apprehension as seem to prevail on this subject. Whether the people of Cuba would be justifiable in revolutionizing, and throwing off the authority of the Spanish government, is a question we need not now decide; but, we are certain that citizens of the United States ought to abstain from encouraging revolt.

Gov. Jones—Rail-road Debate.

On Monday the 5th inst., an election for Directors of the Memphis and Charleston Rail-road was held at this place. Public notice had been given that Gov. James C. Jones of Tenn., President of the present Board of Directors, would be here and that a discussion between him and Maj. Barton and J. W. Clapp, Esq., might be expected. A very large number of persons from the country were in town during the day, and manifested great interest on the subject of the Rail-road. After dinner (Gov. Jones had not arrived) Mr. Clapp and Maj. Barton, addressed the people, who were becoming impatient to hear the promised speeches. In a short time after these gentlemen had concluded their remarks, Gov. Jones was announced as passenger in the Stage just in from Memphis. The crowd soon gathered to the Court-house and the speaking was resumed.

Gov. Jones spoke first. He said he understood that great dissatisfaction prevailed in several of the northern counties of Miss., in regard to the action of the Board of Directors. He insisted that there was no just cause, for complaint by the people of Miss.—that it was the duty of the Directors to locate the road on that route which in their judgment would be most profitable and beneficial to the stockholders—that in forming this judgment they should take into consideration the elements of distance, cost of construction, annual expenditure and probable income—that they had done so and decided in favor of the Lagrange route;—that as for himself, sworn as he was to discharge his duty to the stockholders according to the best of his judgment, he could not, in view of the evidence before him, have voted otherwise than he did, and that rather than have done so, he would have seen the road sunk in the bottomless pit. He endeavored by various ingenious arguments (some of which we regarded as sophistical) to convince the audience that they ought to be reconciled to their disappointment in not securing the location of the road on the route by Holly Springs because the interest of the stockholders required it to go through Lagrange. He seemed to be indifferent to the fact, that the interest of the people of Mississippi, is one element "necessary and proper" to be considered in making an impartial selection of a route. He said he wanted the Directors and Stockholders to be allowed the poor privilege of thinking and acting for themselves, and building the road where they pleased with their own money. This we thought would all sound very well if the Directors and Stockholders were not at the same time asking the "right of way" through the territory of Mississippi; and that this privilege is tendered on condition that the road shall be laid on the Holly Springs route. Besides, it is well known that a very liberal subscription to the Stock was made in this region and especially in this county. But the majority of votes based on the stock is in other states, and this fact has its full influence.

The Gov. said, as for himself he had taken stock in the road for his own benefit while living and for the benefit of his children who might inherit it, that he intended to work for it during his life, and direct that his children should work for it after him; that the Directors would apply to the next session of the Legislature for an amendment of the Mississippi charter, and if it be refused, he would be in favor of adopting a route that would not touch this state, rather than be forced to take this route against his judgment.

He regarded the contract which the Directors had made, to give \$15,000 and build a rail road from Memphis to Lagrange (for the privilege of using an old road which was graded several years ago between those points) as a great obstacle to locating the main road through Holly Springs. We have no doubt it is, as the matter now stands. And although the Tennessee charter required the company to purchase the rights of the stockholders in the old abandoned road, the Board of Directors of which Gov. Jones is the head, ought not to insist on being "allowed the privilege" of taking advantage of their own wrong, committed in making so excessively bad a bargain.

We cannot now notice Gov. Jones' arguments more in detail. We have endeavored to state his remarks accurately so far as we have alluded to them, and believe we have done him no injustice. Mr. Clapp and Maj. Barton replied to him, and there were several replies on each side, which protracted the discussion till late at night. We are convinced that the people, after hearing Mr. Clapp and Maj. Barton speak in behalf of this route, entertained the same opinion that they did before, viz.—that the Holly Springs route had been lightly considered on inconclusive evidence, by the Board of Directors

who decided to locate the road on the Lagrange route. They will still insist on a reinvestigation of the merits of this route.

Encourage Southern Mechanics.

The subjoined article is in reference to a subject which the course of events is gradually pressing and urging upon the attention of the Southern people, viz.—the importance of encouraging and fostering mechanics and the mechanic arts among ourselves. We have frequently thought that the practice of purchasing at a great distance from home, in the northern States, such articles as could easily be manufactured and furnished at our own doors, exhibits consummate folly on the part of the South. Such a course of trade is not only calculated (but certainly has the effect) to drain the Southern States of a large proportion of their cash resources—to dishearten mechanics and artists, and expel them from amongst us. Only a few weeks ago, on our return from a trip up the Ohio river, curiosity induced us to notice the marks on some of the freight, and we saw more than one hundred old fashioned, stained bedsteads, made of popular and other common wood, shipped at Cincinnati and directed to Mobile, Ala. On the same boat were six wagons taken to pieces and laid up on the hurricane deck. The wood-work was rough and smeared with red paint, and the iron work was not better than can be made in any town in the South. These exquisite specimens of northern skill in the mechanic arts, were directed to Montgomery, Ala.; a large, beautiful, prosperous commercial city—the capital of the state. The presumption is, there were wood, iron, red paint and mechanics, in both of those Alabama cities; and there was no necessity for purchasing such wagons and furniture in a distant state. There is an unaccountable, and we think, censurable reluctance to purchase articles made in our own towns. We think it highly probable that if a hatter, shoemaker, tailor, saddler, or other tradesman, who is amongst us, and not liberally supported, were to leave his residence and locate in New York, Philadelphia, or some other northern city, his southern acquaintances, who might meet him there, would patronize him more than they did when he lived amongst them. Such is the passion for far-fetched commodities. But we think the unkindness, (to say nothing of the usurpation and arrogance) of our northern brethren, is bringing us to reflect, and arousing us to a sense of our interest, on this subject; and unless they greatly improve in their deportment, they may hereafter expect to receive much less of southern cash than they have been accustomed to enjoy.

"Much has been written about the dependence of the South upon the North for many of the articles necessary to carry on the various branches of business in the Southern States. And while we hear the most bitter denunciations against Northerners for their interference in our domestic institutions; their refusal to have enforced the fugitive slave law, and other matters, we hold the authors of such anathemas, the foremost in encouraging northern workmen, to the injury and ruin of southern mechanics. Does a planter wish to purchase a wagon or buggy; does he wish to buy a dozen axes or hoes—a few dozen shoes or blankets for his negroes—does he wish to purchase a fine suit of clothes, or a fine dress for his wife—does he want a saddle or a set of harness—is he building a new house, and wants a set of blinds? why forsooth, he must neglect his own neighbors who are depending on different branches of mechanic business for their daily bread, and instead of supporting them in their honest exertions to make a livelihood, he sends his order to Philadelphia or New York, for the very articles which he might obtain from those whose interests are identified with his own. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are thus sent out to the North annually, for articles that could be obtained from Southern Mechanics. Can the South prosper so long as she neglects her own sturdy mechanics? Their position is a hard one truly: for they have to compete with foreign labor on one hand, and with slave and penitentiary labor on the other.

"But perhaps no class of men suffer under this state of things to a greater extent than the Printers and publishers of newspapers in the South. All know, (or ought to know,) that the subscription list alone of most of our country papers will not support them, and yet, we see ten, twenty or forty subscribers in every village in the South, combined to support some wishy washy sheet as the "Unionist" of New York, or some other cheap (?) paper whose conductors are in heart and soul opposed to Southern interests, while they will not support a paper published in their own country—papers which furnish them with the useful home statistics advising them of what is most calculated to interest them. If a merchant wants a few hand-bills, or bill-heads, if a druggist wants a few labels, or a lawyer or physician wants a hundred profession cards printed, or a teacher wants two or three hundred circulars or concert bills, he must send to a Northern city where he can procure them a little cheaper (but not always) than at home. Merchants are satisfied to let the newspaper publisher, perish, rather than give him a little advertising. The spirit of gross neglect, and downright opposition to printers, extends through the whole ramifications of society in the South. And as long as this course is pursued we drive from amongst us those men who in all ages of the world have proved themselves the most useful to society. We moreover keep

from amongst us many more who would gladly take their places in our midst, as good citizens, useful in building our towns, and ornamenting the country, by Mechanical skill and integrity. We must become independent of other portions of the country, to a certain extent, by building up manufacturing, supporting our own blacksmiths, gun-rights, shoe-makers, tailors, cabinet workers, painters, Plumbers, &c., &c., and then we will advance steadily and securely on the highroad to prosperity and wealth."

Hon. Jacob Thompson.

The attention of our readers is directed to the sketch of the life of the Hon. Jacob Thompson which they will find on the 3rd page. Mr. Thompson is favorably known to almost everybody in the southwest, personally or by reputation, and we have no doubt all will gladly embrace the opportunity to read what is now presented to them in regard to him.

For the Mississippi Palladium.

An Alcalde's Court in California.

First Trial.

NO. III.
The Alcalde is vested with absolute power over the property and personal liberty of those within his jurisdiction, and the laws which he administers, are principally those which he himself enacts. He combines therefore, or did at least among the miners,—the characters of legislator, judge and jury. A Sheriff executes his judgments and enforces obedience to his decrees. Among the gold diggers, Alcalde and Sheriff were elected by popular vote, and however repugnant the despotism of the system may have been to the subjects of it; and however inconsistent with those ideas of law and justice, derived from their experience at home, they still, from the sheer necessity of the case, united heartily in sustaining it, and yielded the most implicit submission to its demands.

The writer of this article was elected Alcalde of the "Middle Yuba," in April, 1890. About three thousand men were subject to his authority. A code of laws about six inches long was promulgated, of a general nature, reserving more detailed legislation for the occasions which should require it.

The first cause which was submitted to the Alcalde involved the right to a Bar on the River; the conflict was between two companies—Capt. C. and Capt. S. By the established law of mining, each man was allowed to appropriate, and hold against the world, thirty feet front on the river, and so much in addition as he should turn the water from; and he who took possession first had the priority of title. The Bar in controversy, was thought to be worth at least ten thousand dollars. The companies claiming it were composed of ten or a dozen men each, and their respective Captains were their representatives ad idem. Capt. C. was the Plaintiff. He had a few days previously lodged his complaint with the Alcalde, and a writ had been issued commanding the Sheriff to summon the defendant, Capt. S., to appear before the Alcalde on the following Sunday, at the Grocery, to show cause, if any he could, why he should not be compelled to evacuate the demanded premises. I must explain here, that Sunday was the only day on which the miners took time for the administration of justice, and the grocery the only place where the parties and witnesses could be assembled or kept together. The cohesive power of something to drink was indispensable. The grocery was a sort of bush arbor, somewhat back from the river, near the side of the hill, in a location as nearly central as possible among the camps which lined the stream. A few rough boards, set up on forks, answered the purpose of a counter, upon which the liquid poison was retailed in tin cups from a jug. A few feet from the grocery was a hole some ten or twelve feet deep and five or six wide, which had been dug in "prospecting" as we called it—that is in searching for a vein of the precious metal. This hole was the Alcalde's jail; logs rolled across it, served to prevent the escape of prisoners.

Fancy the scene then. It was a bright April Sunday. In the valley vegetation was green, and the atmosphere soft and balmy, while upon the mountain tops around, the snow lay deep and glittering in the sunlight. Rivulets came leaping and laughing down the steep declivities, and the river rolled rustling and turbulent over its stony bed in front of us. Court was opened by proclamation, and the Alcalde, without a coat,—as he had lost his only coat in crossing the snow-mountains—looked as long as Samson's, before Delilah clipped them, and a beard of a year's growth, and altogether as rough, and dirty, and uncouth as you can imagine a man to become in the grease and smoke of a camp, and cut off from all the civilizations of life—some of his courtiers, on an old stump which stood just in front of the counter.

Around him were gathered an unwashed, unshaven, ragged, savage-looking throng, from almost "every nation under heaven," silent for the moment, in the intense excitement by the novel scene, and gazing in a sort of gaping wonder upon the Alcalde, as though they were half bewildered by the almost burlesque scene which was being enacted. The value of the location involved in the suit, and the fact that it was the first trial in the court, had collected a large crowd, and created much excitement. They had all liquored, (the Court excepted) as they came upon the ground. The Alcalde addressed the meeting, endeavoring to impress upon them the necessity for order and quiet, and urging

upon them the necessity of preserving sufficient decorum and propriety, to allow the business of the court to proceed without interruption. He then called the parties and asked if they were ready for trial. All ready. Mr. O'C., a lawyer from St. Louis, appeared for the Plaintiff. The Defendant objected to the appearance of a lawyer in the cause, but the court overruled the objection, telling him that he might employ half a dozen if he wished, and appear for himself in the bargain. A knowing old gunsmith, one of the Defendants' company, here gave him the wink, and tendered his services as attorney, which were forthwith accepted. The witnesses were then called and ordered to raise their right hands to be sworn, as we had no Bible on the Yuba, at that time, for them to kiss. The first witness introduced by the Plaintiff (as were all the rest) was himself a member of the Plaintiff's company, and therefore directly interested in the event of the suit. The Gunsmith insisted that he should not be allowed to testify, as he knew, (he said) that he would be certain to swear a lie. The Alcalde remembered, that as juror and bystander in the court house at home, he had often heard the rule of evidence propounded, which excludes as witnesses those interested in the matter of the suit; but he did not feel bound by the rule. He looked upon the question as being, so far as the Yuba Court was concerned, *res integra*, and therefore decided it for himself. He argued that the reason of the rule is much of its force, when the evidence was offered to a court instead of a jury, and concluded (and he doubts not, that in the progress of law reform, his conclusion will be followed ere long, everywhere,) that the objection to the witness, arising from his interest, ought to go, as the lawyers say, not to his competency, but to his credibility. He decided in other words, that he would hear what they all had to say, and trust to his own judgment in determining what he should believe.

The second witness was an Irishman, who stood six feet without stockings, and had figured so often, that his centre of gravity seemed to be constantly shifting—as he came to the stand; the Gunsmith, who was by this time, at least three tin cups from the lawyer-side of sober, murmured, not sotto voce, something about the Plaintiff's witness all telling lies. In a moment both companies were ready to resort to the wager of battle, which the law traditions tell us about. The Irish witness called St. Patrick to witness that, if a fight was the game, it was "just what he'd be after wanting intirely." The Alcalde interposed.—"Order, order, I will have order; a parcel of ruffians shall not bully me in my court." Order was finally restored, and the Irishman, apologising for his rudeness, invited all hands to come up and liquore.

After much trouble and delay, about ten witnesses were examined on each side, and the testimony presented a labyrinth of cross swearing, such as I trust that our courts and juries here at home, do not often have to thread their way through.

Lawyer O'C., opened the case for the Plaintiff, in a speech of half an hour's length, which would have graced a better forum. He remarked handsomely and ingeniously upon the conflict of the testimony, and urged the claims of the Plaintiff so artfully and plausibly, that there was a stir among the friends of the defence, clearly betokening their apprehensions.

The Gunsmith followed. He said, "May it please the Court, Mr. Alcalde, I am not a lawyer, and I thank God that I am not, for if I was, I think my chance for heaven would be slim indeed. I have listened to the speech of the Missouri lawyer and from what he said, and from what his witnesses stated, several of whom, to my certain knowledge, swore d—d lies." Here the Alcalde informed him that he must not deal in personalities, and be more respectful to the court, or he would order him to jail. "I beg your pardon, Mr. Alcalde, and if you will come up I'll stand treat." The Alcalde declined, saying that he did not drink, and told him to proceed with his argument. "Well, Mr. Alcalde, bear with me till I can liquore, as speaking in such a case makes me profoundly dry," and he went to the counter and took a horn. He then went on with his speech for half an hour or more, abusing the opposite party, talking nonsense, as some of our lawyers do at home, and occasionally stopping to "wet his whistle." A fuller report of his speech would occupy more space than it would be worth. The argument concluded, the Alcalde, summoned all his gravity and dignity, for the purpose of impressing his wild subjects with a sense of the respect due to his station, and proceeded to deliver the judgment of the court. He stated that there had been an unusual amount of hard swearing done in the case, and that, so far as the witnesses were interested parties, he did not attach any consideration whatever to their testimony; but that the Defendant had introduced two or three disinterested persons, who had no doubt told the truth, and their statements inclined him to the side of the defendant, and more especially, since he had "nine points of the law—possession, in his favor." He said "my judgment is that Capt. C. and his company vacate the premises, and pay my costs immediately, which amounts to just one ounce of gold."

He then addressed a short speech to the crowd, exhorting them to remember that a court had been established on the Yuba, and that its power would be most rigorously exercised in preserving order, and promoting justice; and that it was expressly determined hereafter, to exact the strictest decorum of deportment, from all who should be in attendance upon its sittings. He then adjourned court—until the following Sunday.

The decision of this important case seemed to give general satisfaction. As soon as the adjournment was announced, a general shout arose. Capt. S. the Defendant, called up the crowd to drink at his expense. One potation followed another, and when I left the ground, Plaintiffs and Defendants, witnesses, lawyers and bystanders, were gathered around the grocery, in most amiable fellowship, all drunk as Bacchus.

The satisfactory decision of the case, and my threatening speech, established my judicial position; and henceforth the "Alcalde of the Middle Yuba" was respected as an officer of great firmness and impartiality.

From the Memphis Enquirer.
Memphis and Charleston Railroad.
MR. EDITOR:—I will not plead ignorance of your unwillingness to keep up the unhealthy excitement upon this subject; yet, when I begin by assuring you that I wish to address the *reason* rather than the *prejudices* of those here deeply interested in the results to flow from the location of the road, I may confidently appeal to your uniform courtesy in asking a small space in your columns for the purpose of giving a few reasons why the road should run by or near Holly Springs.

1st. The country builds up towns; but the towns don't build the country. The country can live without the town; but the town lives and grows only by being the receptacle of what the country produces.

2nd. North Mississippi has contributed more to the growth of Memphis than Tennessee; but if Memphis were sunk in an earthquake to-morrow, North Mississippi would be as wealthy as she now is. She can therefore do without Memphis; though the inconvenience resulting from the loss of a good market might be felt for some time.

3rd. If, however, the entire crop of North Mississippi should be destroyed for one or two years even, Memphis would dwindle to the little town she was before the Chickasaw nation was settled up. She cannot therefore do without Mississippi.

4th. It is thus most obviously the interest of Memphis to keep on the best terms with the country that so largely sustains her; for if the trade of that region be diverted from her, it can be supplied from no other source, and her destiny is easily foreseen.

5th. It will not do rashly to conclude that the citizens of that region will not so incommode or injure themselves as to seek another market than this; for when men get their passions and prejudices enlisted in the attainment of an object, they often do what they would willingly have avoided, and what their sober second thought would condemn.

The frivolous origin of many a bloody war proves this.

6th. It is not unreasonable then to conclude that if Memphis should fancy she can do without Mississippi, that State may also fancy she can do without Memphis; and should the trade of that country ultimately be thrown into other channels, and another market, any merchant here can tell from his books, that Memphis will go down.

7th. As Memphis would suffer, so would the entire country for ten miles or more around her that now has relative value from being near a prosperous city.

8th. By running this road through or near Holly Springs, you take away from North Mississippi all wish for any other road than this which leads them to a fine market in a few hours.

9th. If it should not run there, a combination of causes is at work which will inevitably induce that people to seek a market at New Orleans or at Mobile. When we see Louisville, Nashville and Columbia about to unite on the north; New Orleans and Jackson (Miss.) about to unite on the south; and when we see Columbus, Miss., (almost in a direct line between New Orleans and Louisville) moving on the subject, it is not a rash conclusion to believe that North Mississippi will be operated upon by both ends of such a magnificent line of Railroad, and that the north and the south,—the Ohio valley and the Gulf coast, will join hands in her soil; and that, too, not much further from Holly Springs than Memphis is.

10. It may be well to remember that Mississippi has some *State pride*, and what is of equal importance, a *State fund*; and when both these are enlisted, and act in conjunction with the other causes and influences referred to, a Railroad from Holly Springs to New Orleans may not seem so problematical as many now think it.

11th. Should this road be built, there is not a man living twenty miles from Memphis, within Tennessee or Mississippi, that would ever go to New Orleans by water from this point, be three days on the river and run the risk of being blown up or sunk, when he can get there by the Railroad in fifteen or twenty hours.

12th. The argument about a Rail road on the most direct line between two points will do well enough when applied to such a road as that between Philadelphia and New York, or London and Liverpool, for the simple reason that the great cities at the ends of such lines, demand, build and sustain them, and they do not depend on the intervening country for support. But where a road is to be built, and sustained in a great measure, by the country through which it is to run, its location should have great reference to the interests and influences of that country.

13th. But there are other reasons for a change of location. The road, as at present located, runs on the borders of Shelby, Fayette and Hardeman; and, as countries, they do not and cannot feel that interest in it which they would feel in a road running through or near their centres. Then, though the change of location would throw this road entirely out of Fayette and Hardeman, yet, their citizens would then heartily unite in projecting and building a road from Memphis on to Jackson, and have all their energies called out in aid of an enterprise more beneficial to them, because more general and extended in its influences.

14th. By this arrangement, Memphis would reap a double advantage. She would retain the trade of North Mississippi, and she would insure a railroad connection with Louisville, which would throw into her lap the trade and travel of the Ohio valley bound for a southern market.

15th. The Memphis and Charleston Railroad would gain more aid from Mississippi by this change, than it would lose in Tennessee.

16th. Deprive the counties of Fayette and Hardeman of the sectional benefits flowing from the Memphis and Charleston Road, and it will at once enlist the whole energies of the counties of Shelby, Fayette, Hardeman, Haywood, Madison, &c., in a Railroad that will run through the heart of our Western District, and will benefit Memphis infinitely more than the other.

17th. With a law authorizing it at the next session of our Legislature, the citizens of these counties would instruct their county courts to subscribe 300,000 dollars each, in aid of this work.

Are not the citizens of Memphis, then, whether stockholders or not, deeply interested in a change of location?

MEMPHIS.
We tender our thanks to our co-temporaries for their kindness and promptness in exchanging papers with us; and shall take pleasure on all occasions to reciprocate the courtesies of the Press.

Two Weeks Later from California.

Highly interesting intelligence from California, Oregon, Panama, and South America. The Cuba Expedition abandoned.

NEW ORLEANS, May 2, P. M.
The steamship Alabama has arrived from Chagres with California dates to the 1st of April and 176 passengers.

The steamers Tennessee and Columbus had arrived at Panama from San Francisco with 385 passengers and over \$1,500,000 in gold dust.

The mining news is very favorable—rich veins are being daily discovered. Heavy rains had fallen, which did not allow the miners to wash the dirt.

Agriculture is prospering. The markets are dull. There were immense stocks of merchandise on hand. The price of dust had risen—[Here the line broke, and we received the following conclusion of the dispatch by the Morse line from Nashville.]

The price of gold dust had risen to \$17 per ounce.

Most of the Indian tribes had made peace and expeditions had been sent against two tribes who had refused to do so.

The Legislature had repealed the foreign miner's tax.

A committee appointed by the Legislature to examine into the case of Judge Parsons, who, it will be remembered imprisoned Mr. Walker, the editor of the San Francisco Herald, for contempt of Court in making certain strictures upon his charge to the grand jury, has reported to impeach him.

There was a great excitement in San Francisco in consequence of the mail-bags from the States having been seized by the collector of the port on suspicion of smuggling being carried on in them. Nothing was however found in them.

More mines had been discovered in Lower California, and thousands of Sonorians were returning there.

The people of Nevada were engaged in rebuilding that town. The incendiary had been discovered, but had escaped.

There had been more lynching, but no hanging.

The U. S. District Court had decided in favor of Capt. Sutter's claim to the land on which Sacramento city is built.

The regimenter Massachusetts had been sent to Oregon for the Rifle regiment, which had been ordered to Santa Fe via New Orleans.

PANAMA, April 21.
The British naval force had raised the blockade of the ports of San Salvador and Honduras.

Major Hobbie, special agent for the P. O. Department, had left Panama for California. He had succeeded in making a satisfactory arrangement on the isthmus for the transportation of the mails to South American and other ports.

The work on the Panama rail-road was progressing rapidly and it was expected that it would be finished in a few months.

Hon. Baile Peyton, the American minister to Chili, had presented to that Government the treaty of reciprocity.

To Pound Red Pepper.

This some times bothers housekeepers, and old ones too. The way they fix it in Virginia, is to tear or break up the pods; then mix them up with as much dough made of corn meal, as will give them proper consistence and cohesion, and then bake it as a hockeak, until it (the cake) is brown, and then beat it all together in your pepper mortar, it will then be strong and of a handsome color.